INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/1B2004/003840

A CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 B22017/00 B221 B22D17/20 B22D17/02 B22D17/04 822D17/30 According to International Potent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation exercised (classification system followed by classification symbols) **B22D** Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. X US 4 347 889 A (KOMATSU ET AL) 1-5. 7 September 1982 (1982-09-07) 10-15, 17,18 column 5 - column 8; claims 1,3; figures 1-5,8; examples 1,2 US 4 842 038 A (FUJINO ET AL) X 1-4,6,7, 27 June 1989 (1989-06-27) 10-13,17 column 3, line 14 - column 4, line 36; figure 1; table 1 X US 6 068 043 A (CLARK ET AL) 1-4,6,7, 30 May 2000 (2000-05-30) 10-12.18 column 5, line 30 - column 6, line 35; claim 1; figures 1,2 -/-- * X Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. * Special sategories of cited documents: T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the sut which is not considered to be of particular relevance. "E" cortier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the alaimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to "L" document which may throw doubts an priority claim(s) or which is clied to establish the publication date of anothe citation or other special reason (as apacified) involve an inventive step when the document is taken plane to of another "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the "O" document referring to an oral displosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed '&' document member of the same petent family Date of the estual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 18.05.05 28 February 2005 Name and malling address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.S. 5819 Patentison 2 Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Ta. 31 651 epo ni, Fax: (+31-70) 340-2040, Ta. 31 651 epo ni, Bergman, L

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